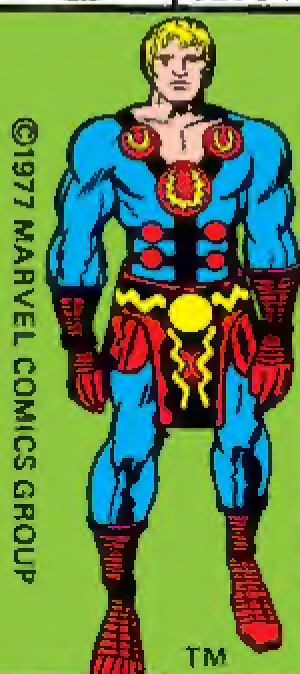
THE ETERNALS™

MARVEL® COMICS GROUP

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WHEN GODS WALK THE EARTH!

THE ETERNALS™

THE *END* OF THE ETERNALS
--AND *EARTH* AS WELL?!
ALL ANSWERS LIE WITHIN--
THE PYRAMID!

WE'RE *TOO LATE,* IKARUS!

WHAT YOUR MAD COUSIN, *DRUIG* HAS UNLEASHED, *NO LIVING BEING CAN STOP!*

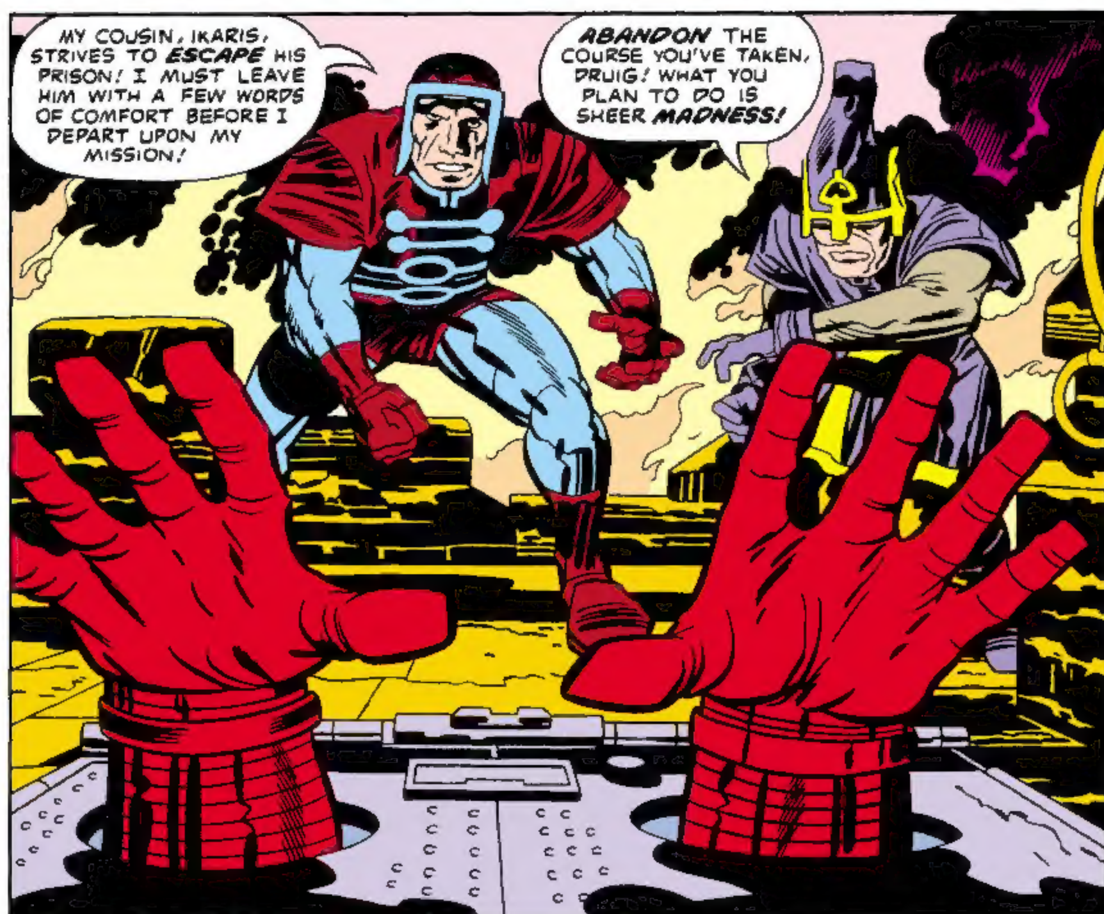
Strange events have exposed a startling fact, kept alive through the centuries only by myth and superstition—man is not alone on the evolutionary chain!! He has shared the planet with two species unknown to him! Now, in a sudden burst of violence, the Deviants have risen from their domain beneath the sea to challenge all humanity!! But mankind has unexpected allies—

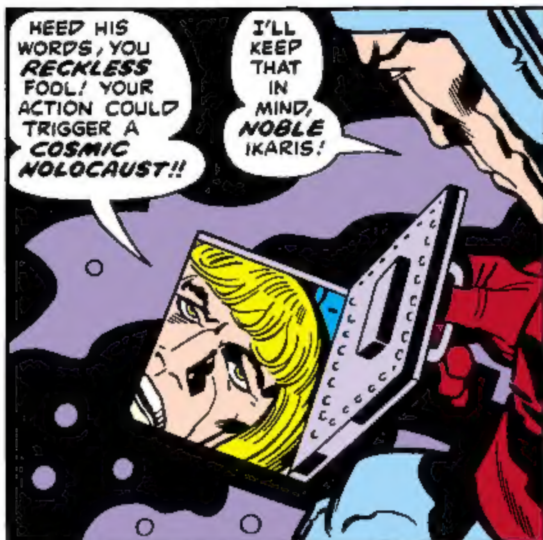
Stan Lee PRESENTS: **THE ETERNALS!**™

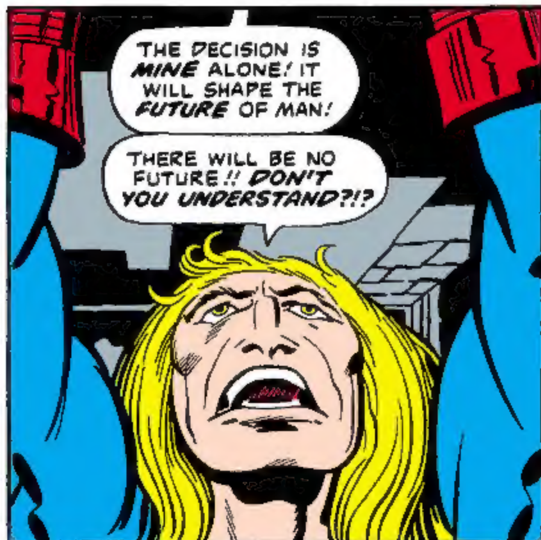
EDITED, WRITTEN AND DRAWN BY **JACK KIRBY** • INKER/LETTERER: **MIKE ROYER** • SUPER COLORIST: **GLYNIS WEIN** • INTELLECTUALIST: **ARCHIE GOODWIN**

AMONG THE POLAR ETERNALS THERE IS ONE WHO WOULD ***DARE*** TO DESTROY A SPACE GOD!! BUT, THERE IS ANOTHER WHO IS ***DETERMINED*** TO STOP HIM! THEY WILL ***MEET!***...THEY WILL ***CLASH!***...THEY WILL DECIDE THE ***FATE*** OF EARTH...IN--

The PYRAMID




HEED HIS WORDS, YOU RECKLESS FOOL! YOUR ACTION COULD TRIGGER A COSMIC HOLOCAUST!!
I'LL KEEP THAT IN MIND, NOBLE IKARIS!

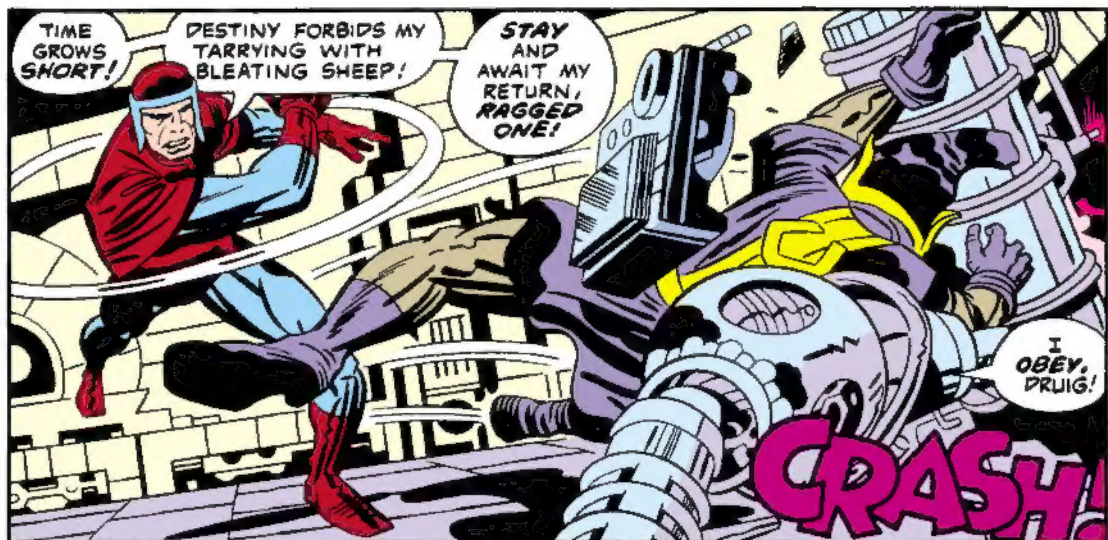

THE DECISION IS MINE ALONE! IT WILL SHAPE THE FUTURE OF MAN!
THERE WILL BE NO FUTURE!! DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND?!?

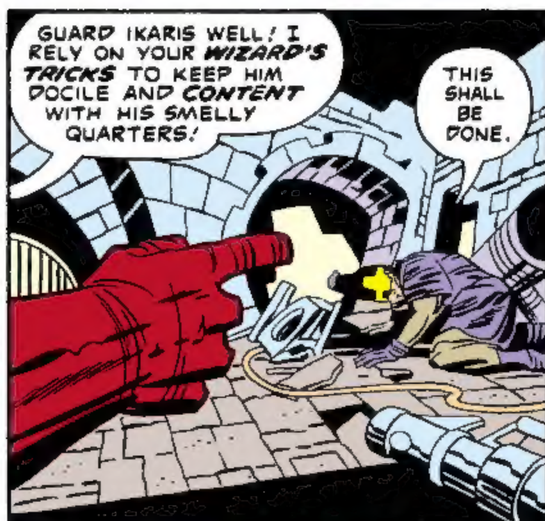

IF YOU DESTROY A SPACE GOD HIS COMPANIONS WILL SHATTER THIS PLANET AND ALL WHO LIVE UPON IT!
HUMANITY WILL PERISH, DRUIG!!


I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF YOUR ADVICE!
BLAST YOU, DEMON!

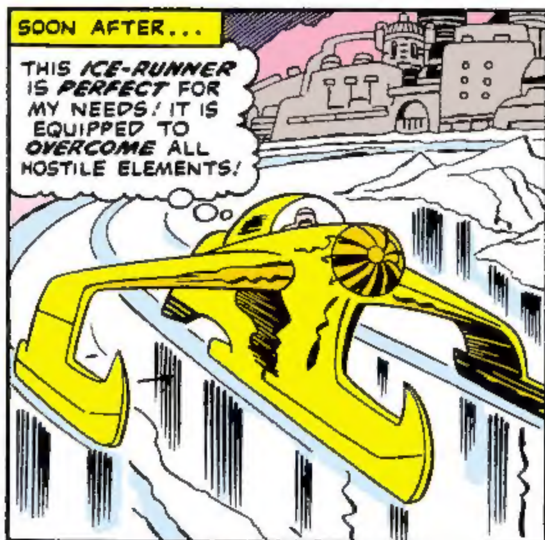

OUR CAPTIVE'S REGAINING HIS SPIRIT, SIGMAR! HOW SOON WILL HE BE AT FULL STRENGTH?
PERHAPS IN TIME TO STOP YOU!!


HE'LL NOT BE AS WEAK AS I!
HE WILL CHALLENGE YOUR POWER OF SOLAR FLAME!
CAUTION, WIZARD, LEST I REDUCE YOU TO A CINDER!

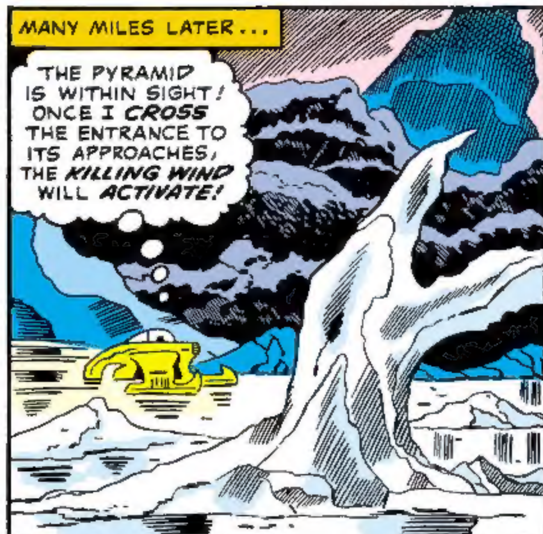

TIME GROWS SHORT!
DESTINY FORBIDS MY TARRYING WITH BLEATING SHEEP!
STAY AND AWAIT MY RETURN, RAGGED ONE!
I OBEY, DRUIG!
CRASH!


GUARD IKARIS WELL! I RELY ON YOUR WIZARD'S TRICKS TO KEEP HIM DOCILE AND CONTENT WITH HIS SMELLY QUARTERS!
THIS SHALL BE DONE.

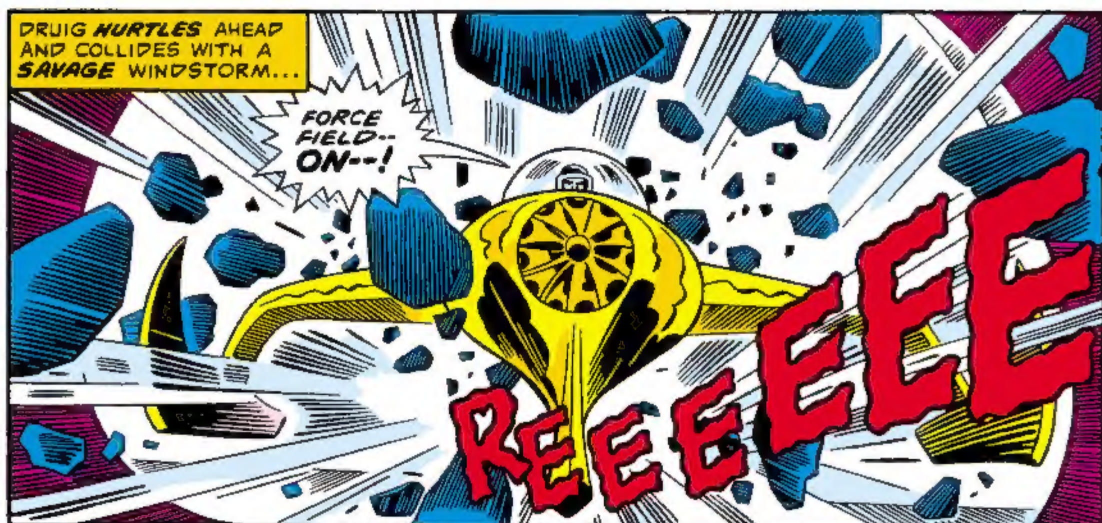

FAREWELL, THEN! I LEAVE FOR THE PYRAMID OF THE WINDS! WHEN I FIND WHAT I WANT, GIANTS SHALL FALL -- AND DRUIG, THE SON OF GREAT VALKIN, WILL RISE IN THEIR PLACE--TO TOWER ABOVE MEN AND THEIR PUNY ACHIEVEMENTS!
THUS ARE DISASTERS BORN--IN THE MINDS OF DEMON-DRIVEN MADMEN!

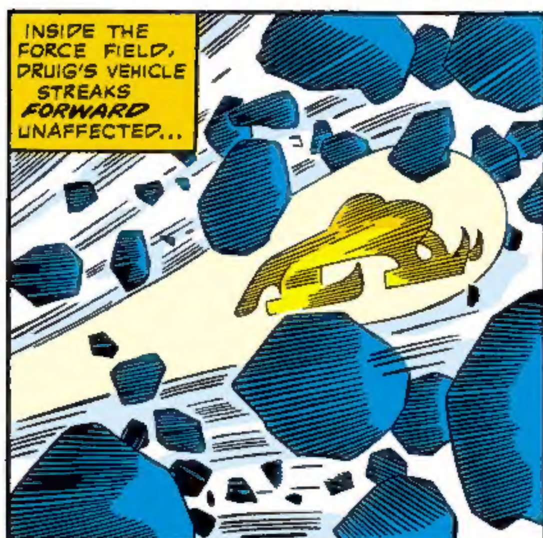

SOON AFTER...
THIS ICE-RUNNER IS PERFECT FOR MY NEEDS! IT IS EQUIPPED TO OVERCOME ALL HOSTILE ELEMENTS!

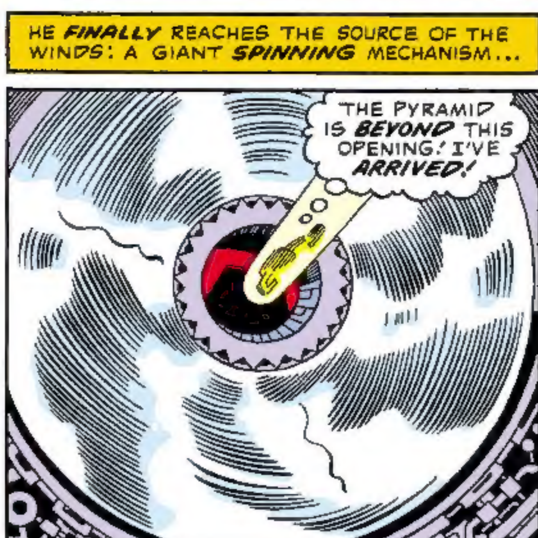

LET THE CENTURIES OF SILENCE FADE LIKE TATTERED GHOSTS! LET THE PYRAMID YIELD ITS INSTRUMENT FOR COSMIC DESTRUCTION!!


MANY MILES LATER...
THE PYRAMID IS WITHIN SIGHT! ONCE I CROSS THE ENTRANCE TO ITS APPROACHES, THE KILLING WIND WILL ACTIVATE!

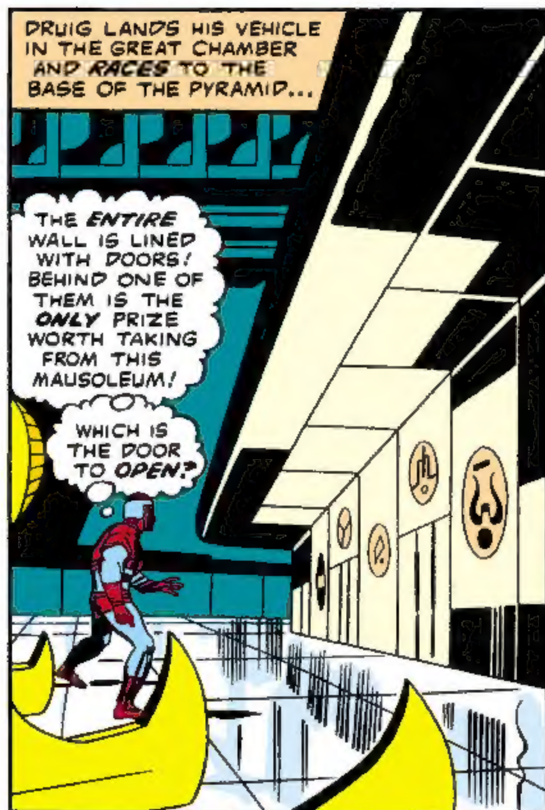

TO LEVITATE IN THAT HOWLING AIR MASS IS IMPOSSIBLE! BUT, THIS VEHICLE CAN GENERATE A PROTECTIVE SHIELD TO GET ME THROUGH!


DRUIG HURTLES AHEAD AND COLLIDES WITH A SAVAGE WINDSTORM...
FORCE FIELD-- ON--!
REEEEEEE

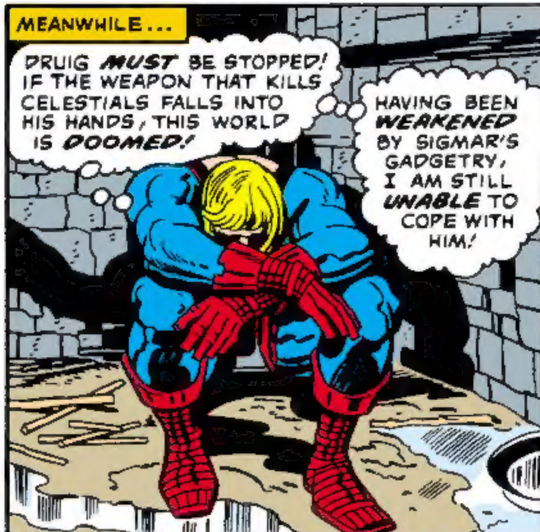

INSIDE THE FORCE FIELD, DRUIG'S VEHICLE STREAKS FORWARD UNAFFECTED...

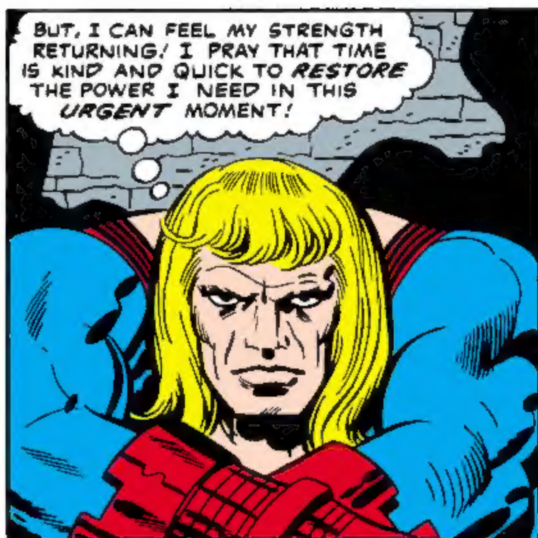

HE FINALLY REACHES THE SOURCE OF THE WINDS: A GIANT SPINNING MECHANISM...
THE PYRAMID IS BEYOND THIS OPENING! I'VE ARRIVED!

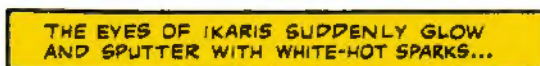
THE BRIDGE OF TERROR IS CROSSED! IN THAT PYRAMID BELOW, THE CELESTIAL WEAPON LIES WAITING FOR THE STRONG ARM OF A CONQUEROR!!

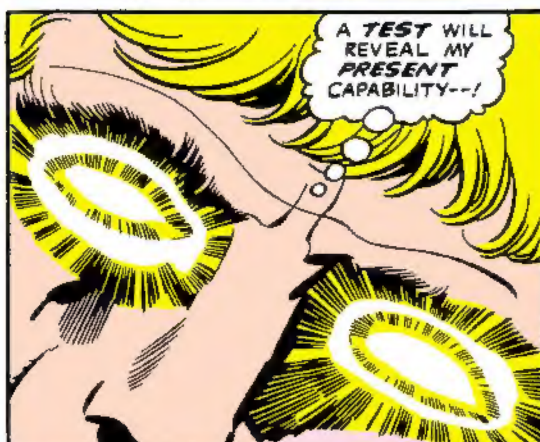


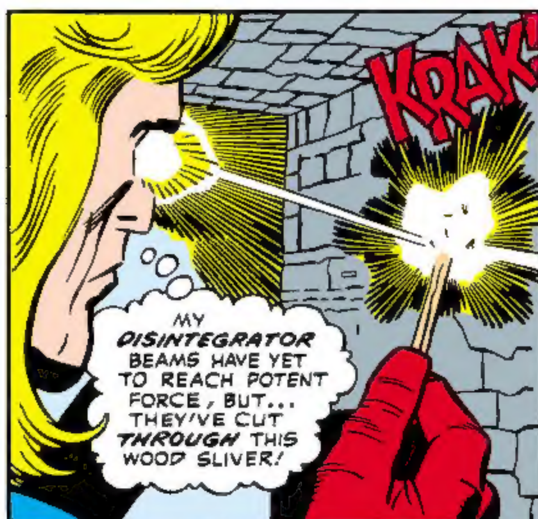


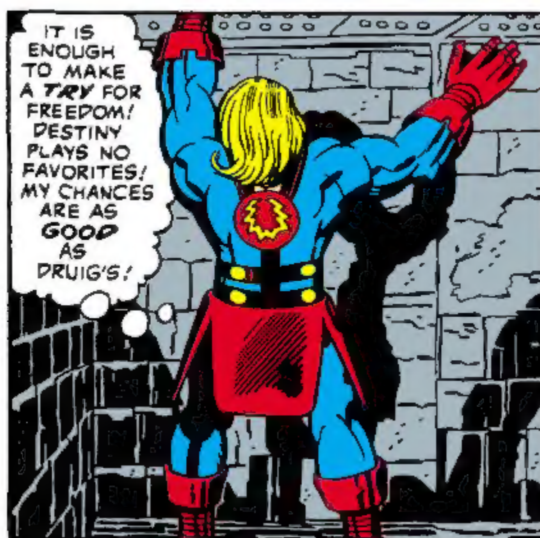

MEANWHILE...
DRUIG MUST BE STOPPED! IF THE WEAPON THAT KILLS CELESTIALS FALLS INTO HIS HANDS, THIS WORLD IS DOOMED!
HAVING BEEN WEAKENED BY SIGMAR'S GADGETRY, I AM STILL UNABLE TO COPE WITH HIM!

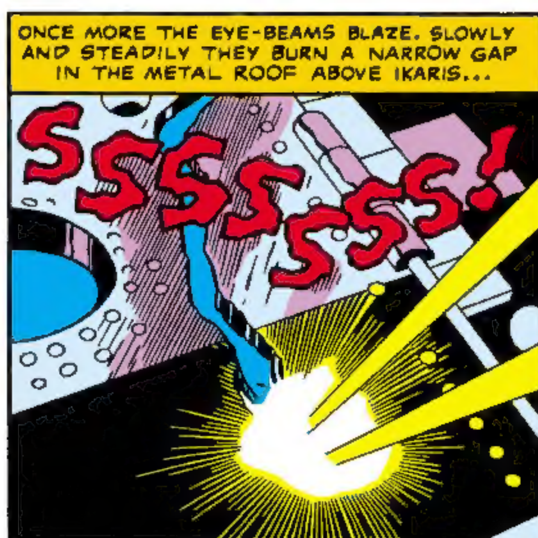

BUT, I CAN FEEL MY STRENGTH RETURNING! I PRAY THAT TIME IS KIND AND QUICK TO RESTORE THE POWER I NEED IN THIS URGENT MOMENT!

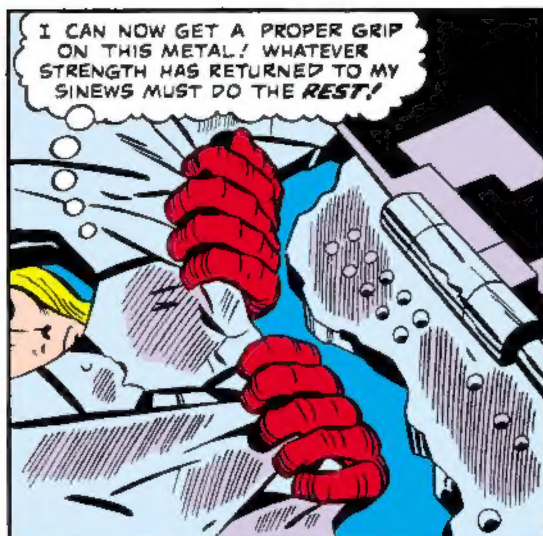

THE EYES OF IKARIS SUDDENLY GLOW AND SPUTTER WITH WHITE-HOT SPARKS...


A TEST WILL REVEAL MY PRESENT CAPABILITY--!

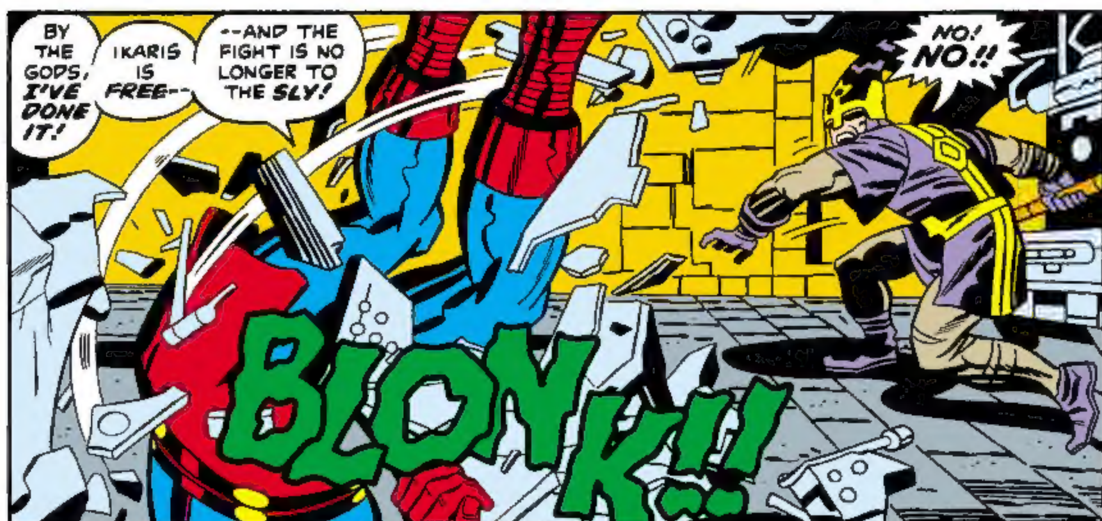

KRAK!
MY DISINTEGRATOR BEAMS HAVE YET TO REACH POTENT FORCE, BUT... THEY'VE CUT THROUGH THIS WOOD SLIVER!

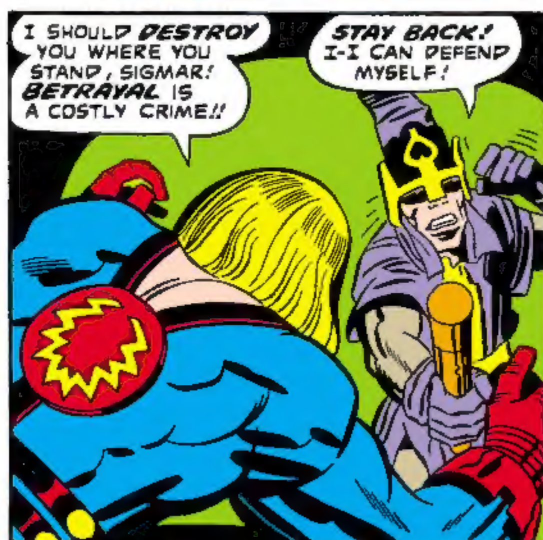

IT IS ENOUGH TO MAKE A TRY FOR FREEDOM! DESTINY PLAYS NO FAVORITES! MY CHANCES ARE AS GOOD AS DRUIG'S!

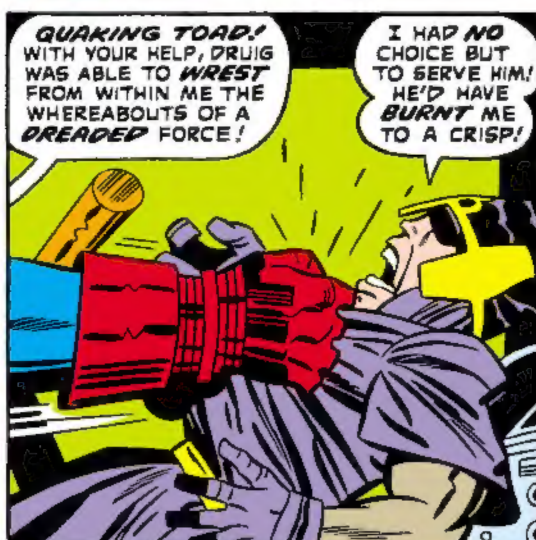

ONCE MORE THE EYE-BEAMS BLAZE. SLOWLY AND STEADILY THEY BURN A NARROW GAP IN THE METAL ROOF ABOVE IKARIS...
SSSSSSSSS!

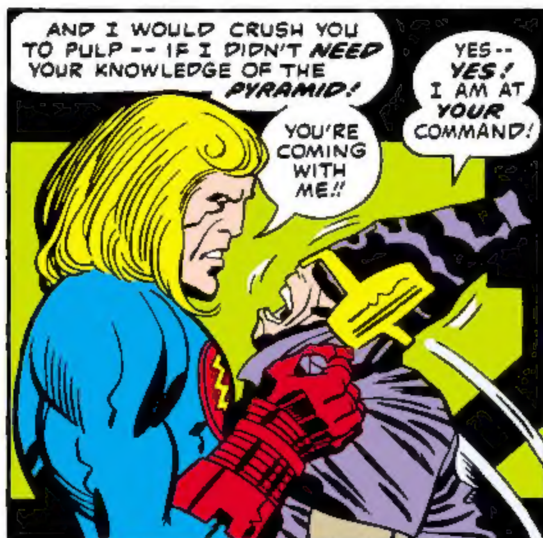

I CAN NOW GET A PROPER GRIP ON THIS METAL! WHATEVER STRENGTH HAS RETURNED TO MY SINEWS MUST DO THE REST!

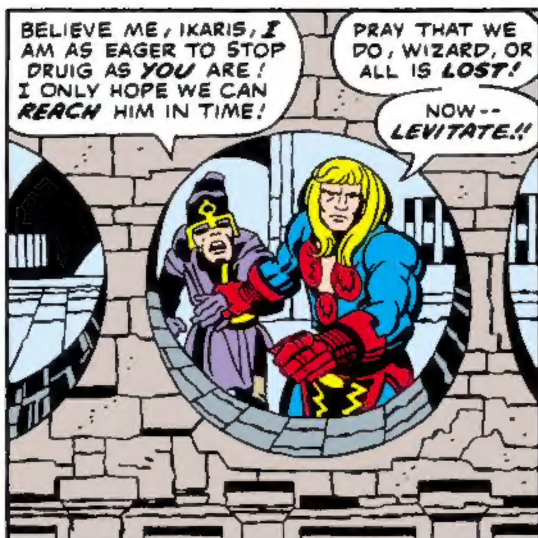

KKRRAAAKKKK

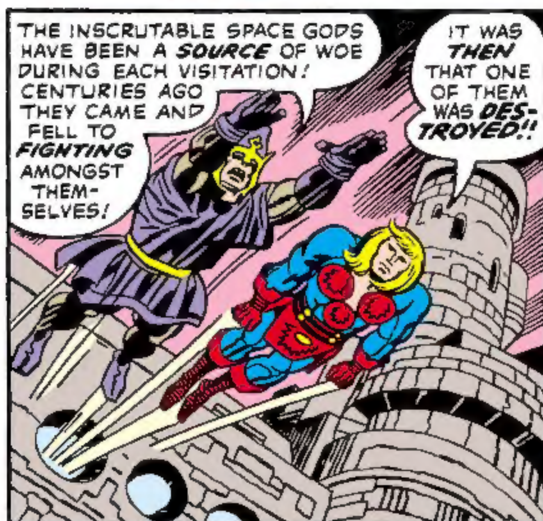

BY THE GODS, I'VE DONE IT!
IKARIS IS FREE--
--AND THE FIGHT IS NO LONGER TO THE SLY!
NO! NO!!
BLONK!!

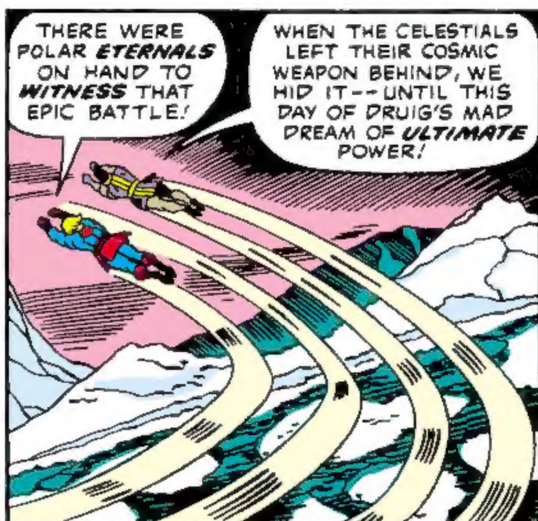

I SHOULD DESTROY YOU WHERE YOU STAND, SIGMAR! BETRAYAL IS A COSTLY CRIME!!
STAY BACK! I-I CAN DEFEND MYSELF!

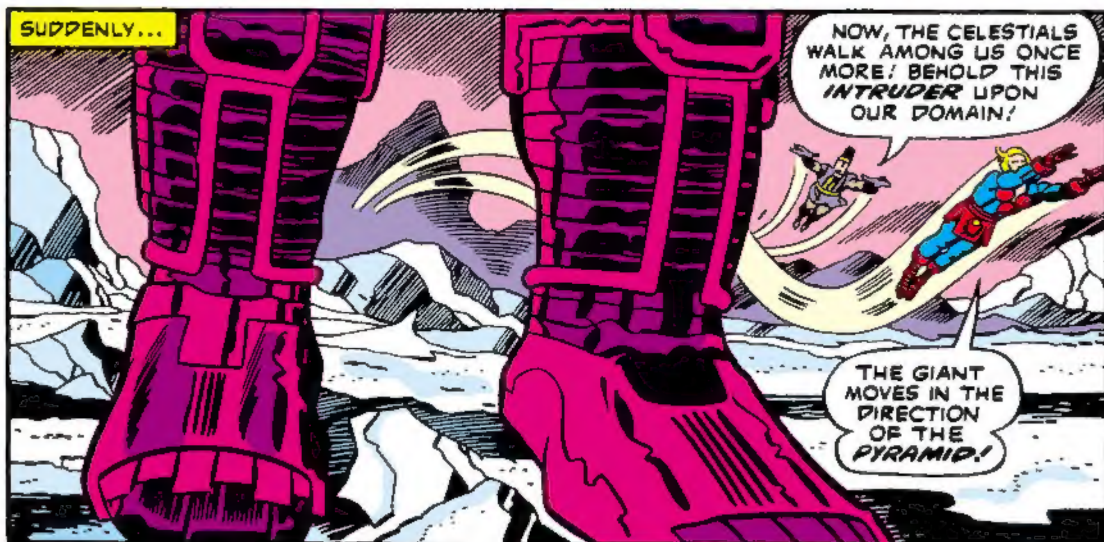

QUAKING TOAD! WITH YOUR HELP, DRUIG WAS ABLE TO WREST FROM WITHIN ME THE WHEREABOUTS OF A DREADED FORCE!
I HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO SERVE HIM! HE'D HAVE BURNT ME TO A CRISP!


AND I WOULD CRUSH YOU TO PULP -- IF I DIDN'T NEED YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF THE PYRAMID!
YOU'RE COMING WITH ME!!
YES -- YES! I AM AT YOUR COMMAND!


BELIEVE ME, IKARIS, I AM AS EAGER TO STOP DRUIG AS YOU ARE! I ONLY HOPE WE CAN REACH HIM IN TIME!
PRAY THAT WE DO, WIZARD, OR ALL IS LOST!
NOW -- LEVITATE!!


THE INSCRUTABLE SPACE GODS HAVE BEEN A SOURCE OF WOE DURING EACH VISITATION! CENTURIES AGO THEY CAME AND FELL TO FIGHTING AMONGST THEM-SELVES!
IT WAS THEN THAT ONE OF THEM WAS DES-TROYED!!

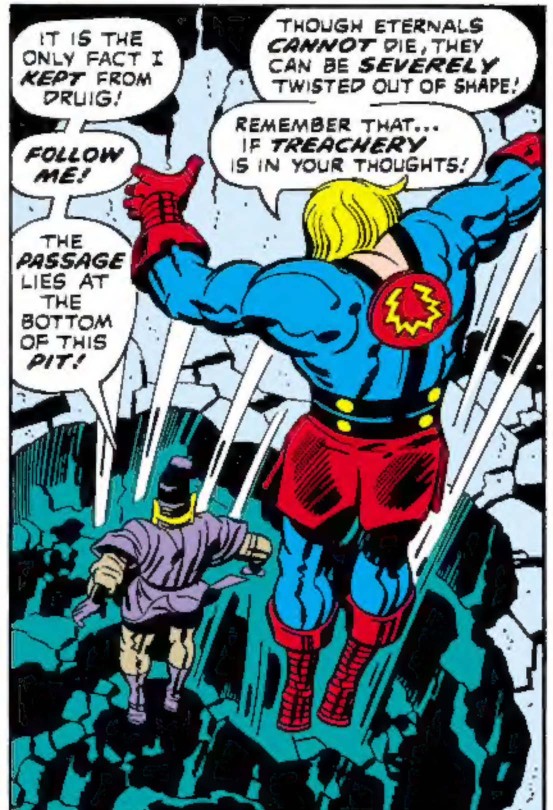

THERE WERE POLAR ETERNALS ON HAND TO WITNESS THAT EPIC BATTLE!
WHEN THE CELESTIALS LEFT THEIR COSMIC WEAPON BEHIND, WE HID IT -- UNTIL THIS DAY OF DRUIG'S MAD DREAM OF ULTIMATE POWER!


SUDDENLY...
NOW, THE CELESTIALS WALK AMONG US ONCE MORE! BEHOLD THIS INTRUDER UPON OUR DOMAIN!
THE GIANT MOVES IN THE DIRECTION OF THE PYRAMID!

VALKIN PRESERVE US!
IF DRUIG *FINDS* THAT WEAPON...
HE MAY WELL *USE* IT UPON THIS SILENT BEHEMOTH --AND BRING US TO WAR WITH FORCES WHICH HAVE *COWERED* GALAXIES!
FASTER, WIZARD-- *FASTER!*

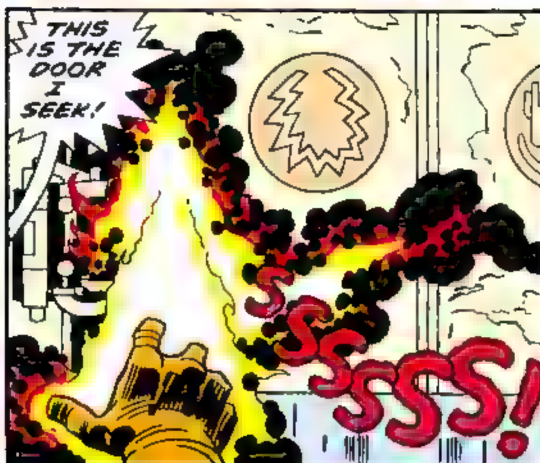
DRIVEN BY *DESPERATION,* THE TWO ETERNALS *INCREASE* THEIR FLIGHT SPEED UNTIL...

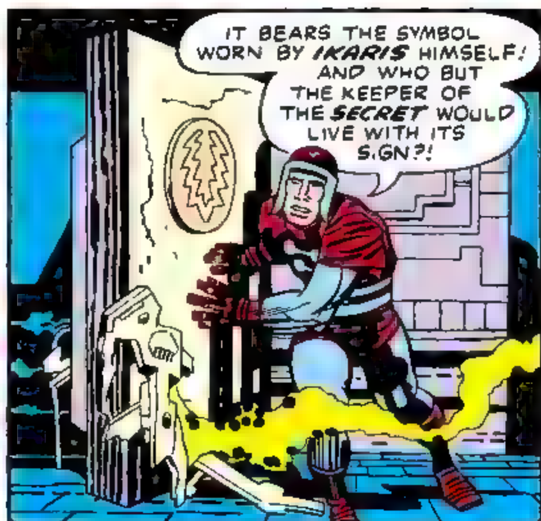




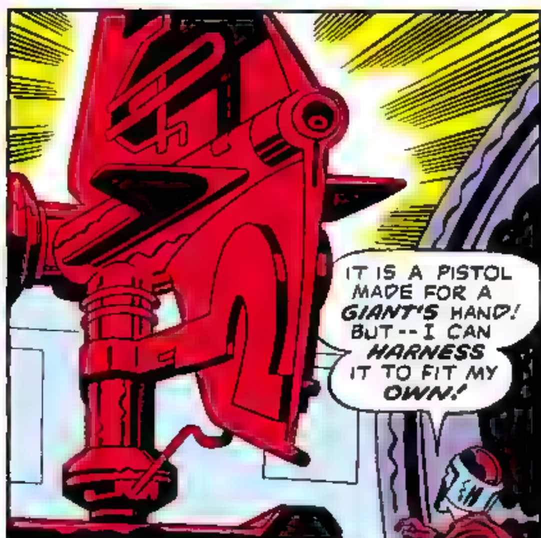


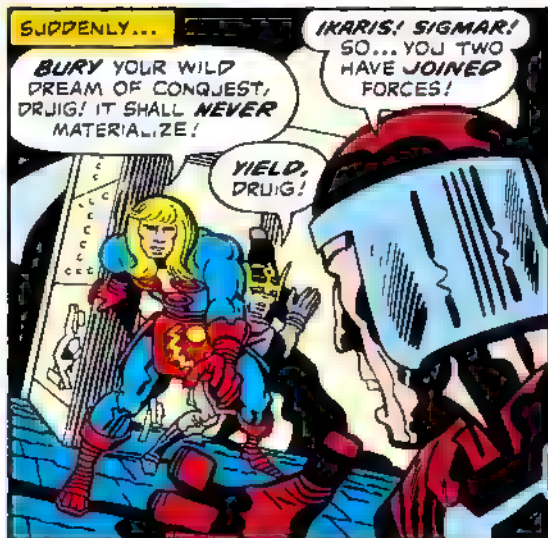
MEANWHILE, AT THE PYRAMID...

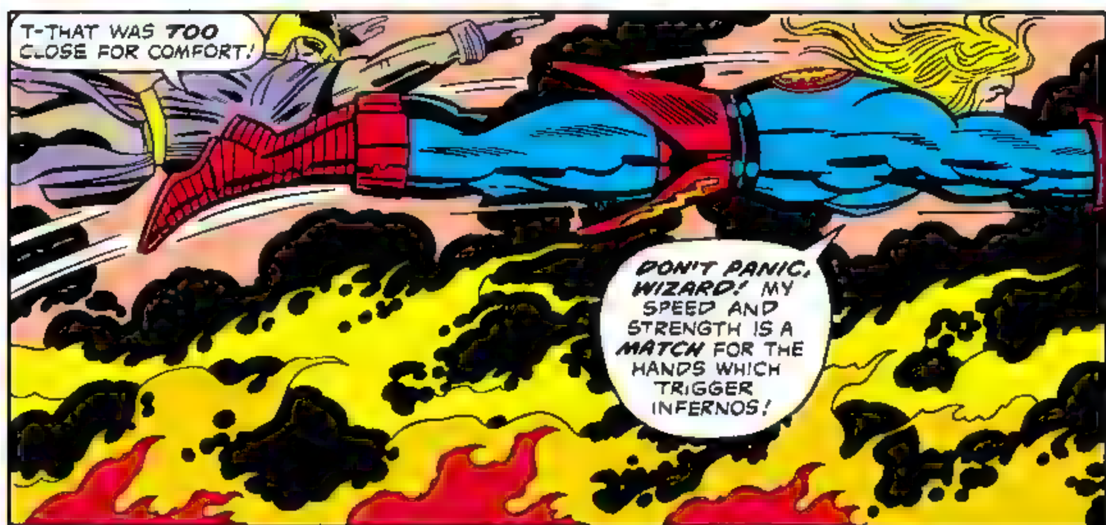
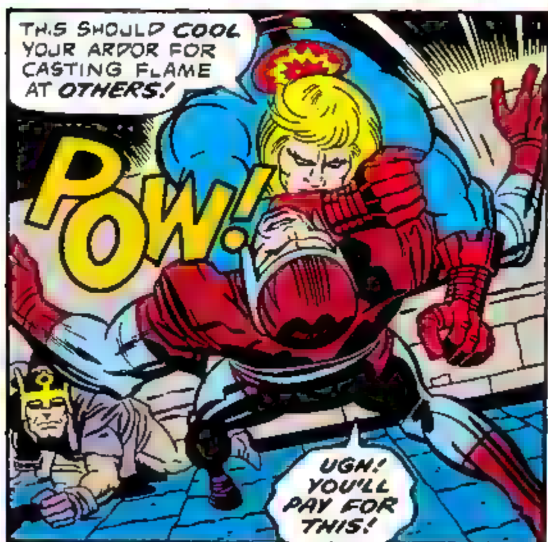
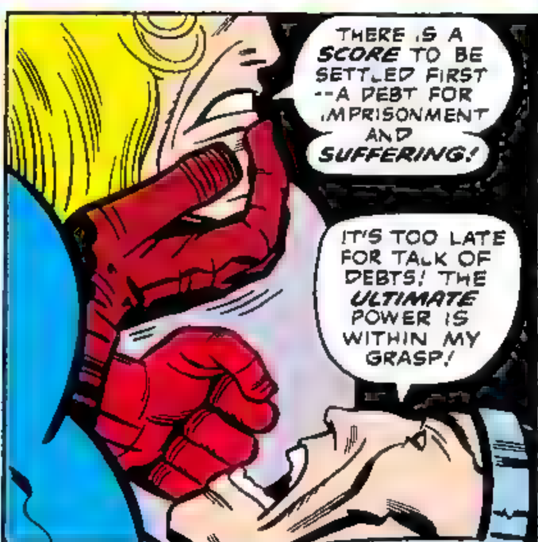






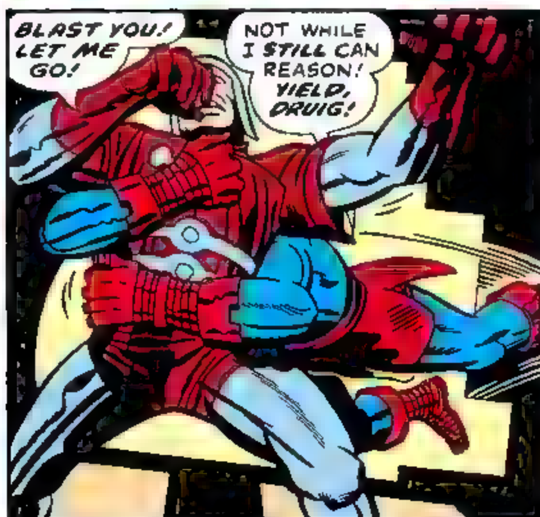


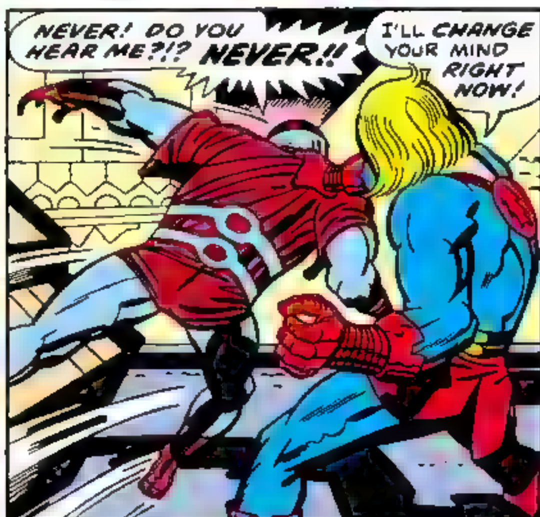

SUDDENLY...
BURY YOUR WILD DREAM OF CONQUEST, DRUIG! IT SHALL NEVER MATERIALIZE!
IKARIS! SIGMAR! SO... YOU TWO HAVE JOINED FORCES!
YIELD, DRUIG!

I'LL SEE YOU WITHER IN THE FLAMES OF THE INFERNO BEFORE I ABANDON MY PLANS!!
BURN! BURN!!

T-THAT WAS TOO CLOSE FOR COMFORT!
DON'T PANIC, WIZARD! MY SPEED AND STRENGTH IS A MATCH FOR THE HANDS WHICH TRIGGER INFERNOS!

THIS SHOULD COOL YOUR ARDOR FOR CASTING FLAME AT OTHERS!
POW!
UGN! YOU'LL PAY FOR THIS!

THERE IS A SCORE TO BE SETTLED FIRST --A DEBT FOR IMPRISONMENT AND SUFFERING!
IT'S TOO LATE FOR TALK OF DEBTS! THE ULTIMATE POWER IS WITHIN MY GRASP!

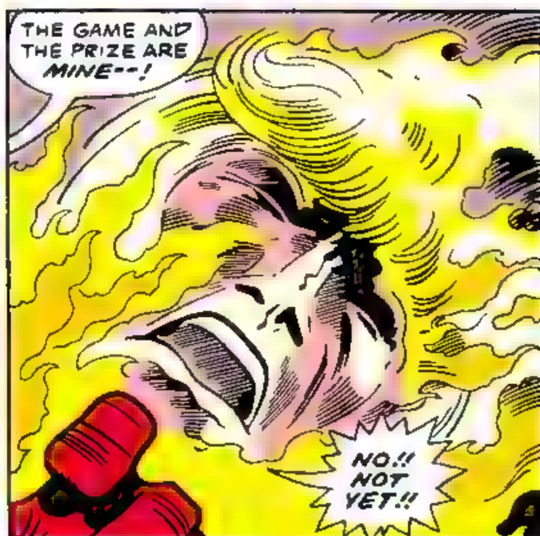

DESPERATION FILLS DRUIG WITH SAVAGE STRENGTH HE LASHES OUT AT IKARIS...
AWAY, FOOL! NOT EVEN THE SPACE GODS CAN STOP ME NOW!
WOMP!

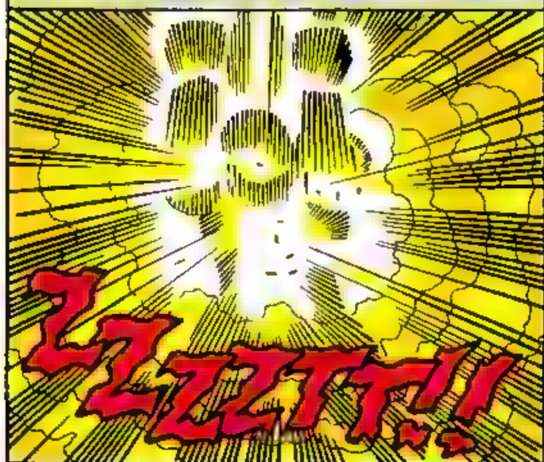

THAT CELESTIAL WEAPON WAITS FOR A HAND AND HEART WITH THE WILL TO SWEEP THIS PLANET CLEAR OF ALL OPPOSITION!
AND I VOW THAT THE DEMONS OF THE PITS SHALL HAVE YOU FIRST!

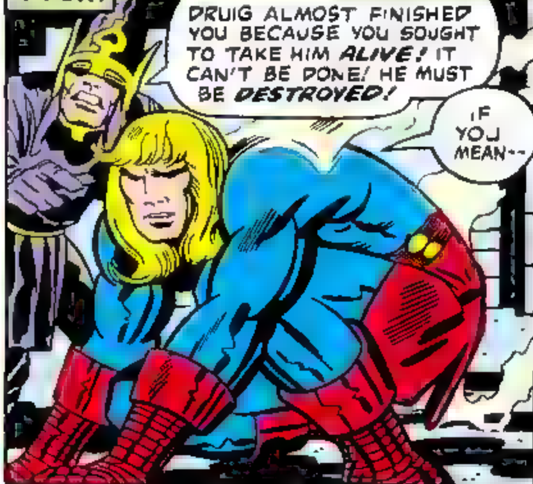

BLAST YOU! LET ME GO!
NOT WHILE I STILL CAN REASON! YIELD, DRUIG!


NEVER! DO YOU HEAR ME?!? NEVER!!
I'LL CHANGE YOUR MIND RIGHT NOW!


IKARIS IS SUDDENLY STRUCK BY A FIRE BOLT...
YOU CROW TOO SOON, COUSIN!
TSSSHHH!!

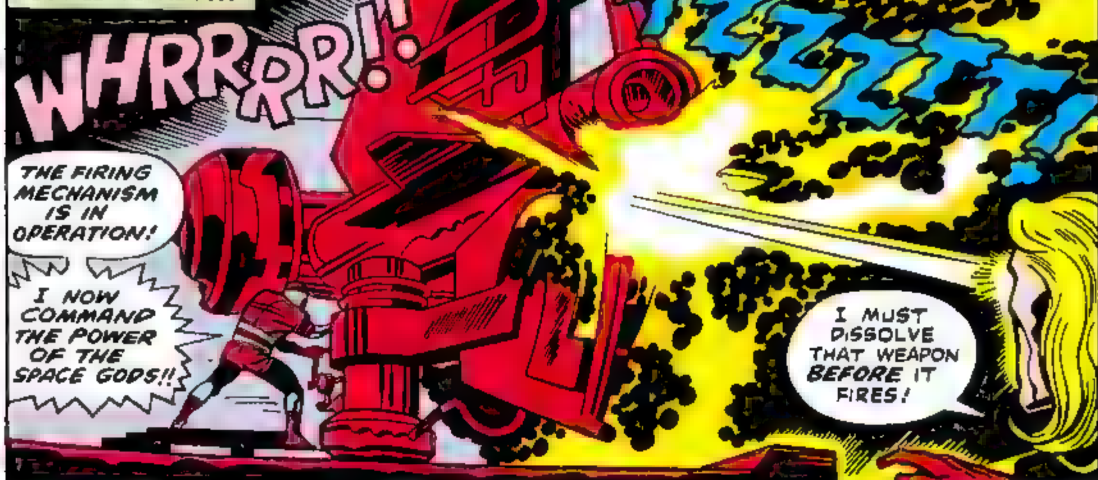

THE GAME AND THE PRIZE ARE MINE--!
NO!! NOT YET!!

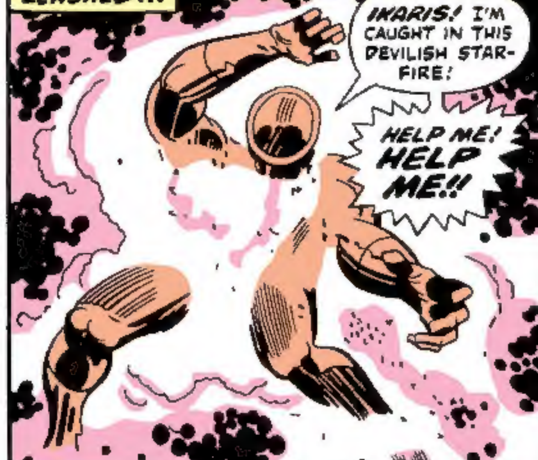

IKARIS MARSHALLS THE POTENT MENTAL CONTROL OF MATTER, COMMON TO AN ETERNAL, AND SCATTERS THE HEAT ELECTRONS ...
ZZZZTT!!


AT THAT MOMENT SIGMAR DASHES TO HIS SIDE...
DRUIG ALMOST FINISHED YOU BECAUSE YOU SOUGHT TO TAKE HIM ALIVE! IT CAN'T BE DONE! HE MUST BE DESTROYED!
IF YOU MEAN--

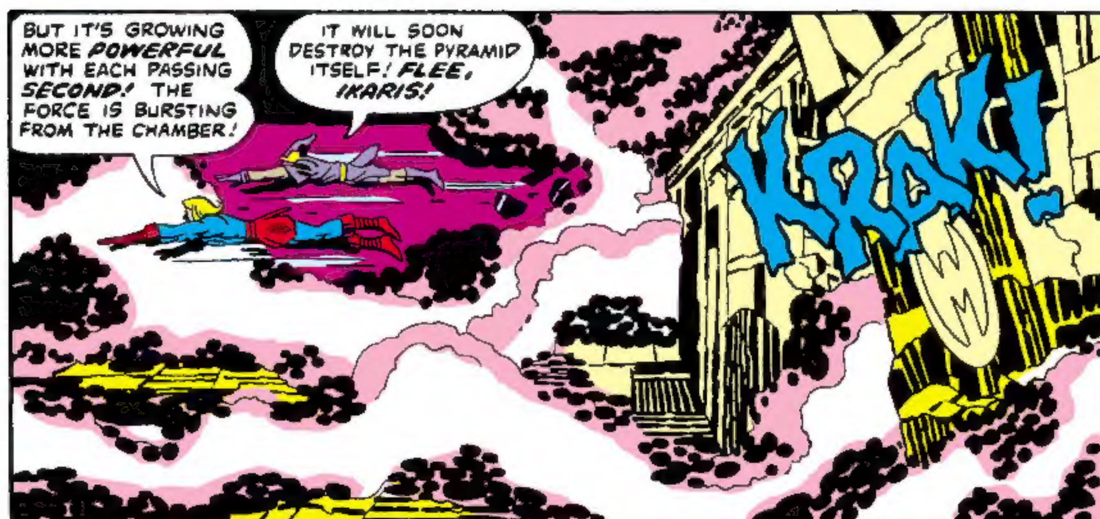

YOU KNOW EXACTLY WHAT I MEAN! DISINTEGRATE DRUIG! HE'S REACHED THE WEAPON!
BUT--HE'S OF MY FAMILY--THE SON OF GREAT VALKIN!

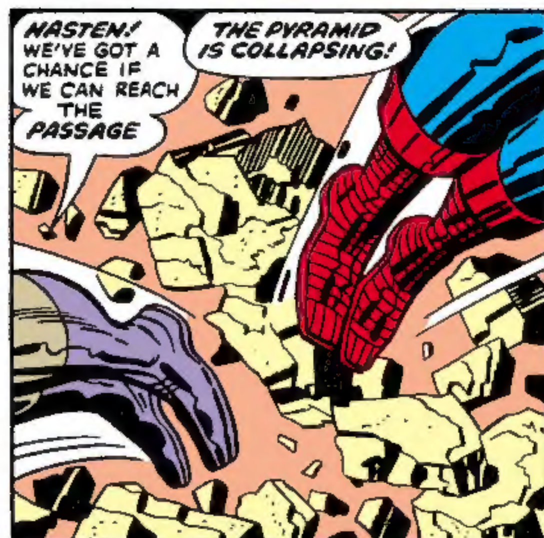

ONCE HE TRIGGERS THAT WEAPON HE WILL RELEASE A FORCE WHICH WILL WIPE OUT ALL FAMILIES!
ACTIVATE YOUR DISINTEGRATOR EYE-BEAMS! DESTROY HIM!
I-I HAVE NO CHOICE!


BUT EVEN AS IKARIS DECIDES TO ACT...
WHRRRR!!
TZZZTT!
THE FIRING MECHANISM IS IN OPERATION!
I NOW COMMAND THE POWER OF THE SPACE GODS!!
I MUST DISSOLVE THAT WEAPON BEFORE IT FIRES!


THE WEAPON DISINTEGRATES-- BUT NOT BEFORE THE DEVOURING CELESTIAL FORCE IS UNLEASHED...
IKARIS! I'M CAUGHT IN THIS DEVILISH STAR-FIRE!
HELP ME! HELP ME!!


DRUIG VANISHES ALL TOO QUICKLY IN THE EXPANDING HOLOCAUST! THEN, IT FEEDS ON THE PLATFORM AND REACHES OUT FOR EVERY MATERIAL SUBSTANCE IN ITS PATH...
DRUIG IS GONE! NOW DO WE STOP THIS, WIZARD?!
W-WE CAN'T!


BUT IT'S GROWING MORE POWERFUL WITH EACH PASSING SECOND! THE FORCE IS BURSTING FROM THE CHAMBER!
IT WILL SOON DESTROY THE PYRAMID ITSELF! FLEE, IKARIS!
KRAK!


NASTEN! WE'VE GOT A CHANCE IF WE CAN REACH THE PASSAGE
THE PYRAMID IS COLLAPSING!


BLAAM!!

ALIEN IN ORIGIN AND ALL-CONSUMING IN ITS NATURE, THE *DESTRUCTIVE* FORCE TURNS THE GIANT PYRAMID INTO A MASS OF *BLAZING* ENERGY...

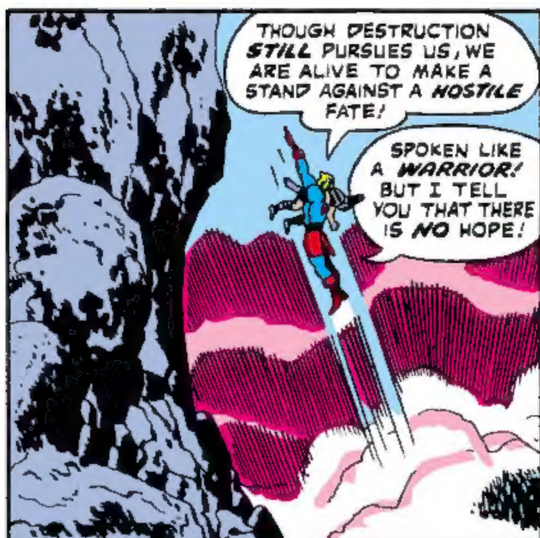
I'VE BEEN *INJURED,* IKARIS! LEAVE ME! *SAVE YOURSELF!*

NOT EVEN *FOOLS* DESERVE SUCH A DEATH! YOU'RE COMING WITH *ME,* SIGMAR!



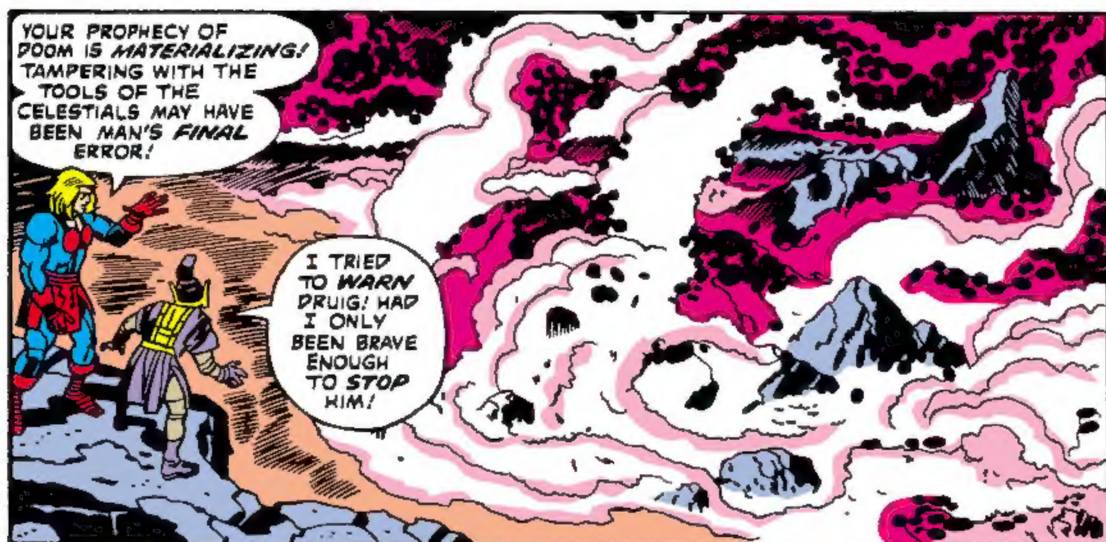


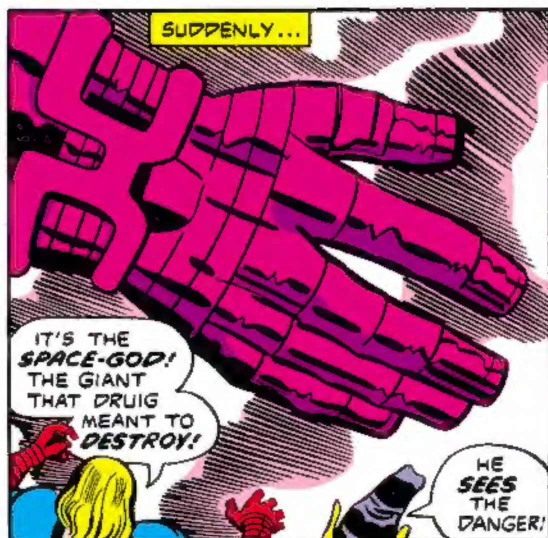

WHY DO YOU PERSIST IN STRUGGLING AGAINST FATE?! LET US FACE IT -- AND PERISH WITH DIGNITY!
COURAGE, WIZARD! WE'VE REACHED THE MOUTH OF THE PASSAGE!

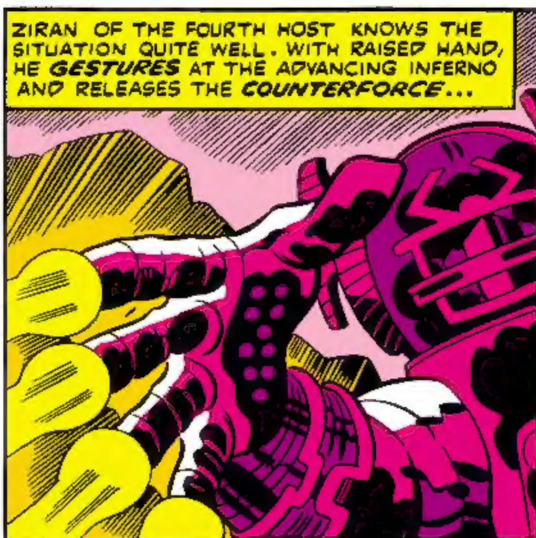

THOUGH DESTRUCTION STILL PURSUES US, WE ARE ALIVE TO MAKE A STAND AGAINST A HOSTILE FATE!
SPOKEN LIKE A WARRIOR! BUT I TELL YOU THAT THERE IS NO HOPE!


LOOK BELOW! THE LAND SEETHES AND CRACKS IN THE THROES OF DEATH!
NEVER HAVE I SEEN THE LIKES OF THIS!


THE FORCE IS CONSUMING EVERY ATOM OF THE ROCK BENEATH THE SURFACE! IN A MOMENT IT WILL BREAK THROUGH AND SPREAD ACROSS THE HORIZON!
CURSED WAS THE DAY THAT DRUIG DECIDED TO USE THIS POWER!


YOUR PROPHECY OF DOOM IS MATERIALIZING! TAMPERING WITH THE TOOLS OF THE CELESTIALS MAY HAVE BEEN MAN'S FINAL ERROR!
I TRIED TO WARN DRUIG! HAD I ONLY BEEN BRAVE ENOUGH TO STOP HIM!

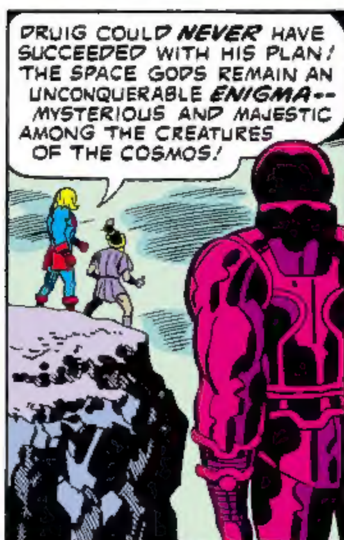

SUDDENLY...
IT'S THE SPACE-GOD! THE GIANT THAT DRUIG MEANT TO DESTROY!
HE SEES THE DANGER!

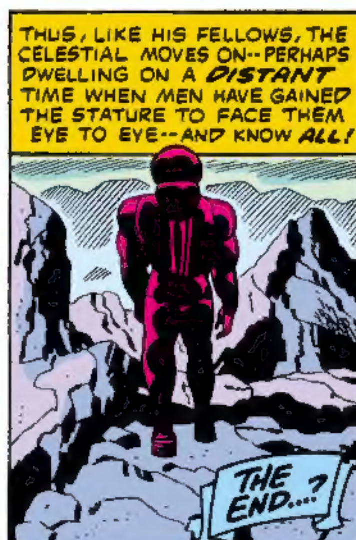

ZIRAN OF THE FOURTH HOST KNOWS THE SITUATION QUITE WELL. WITH RAISED HAND, HE GESTURES AT THE ADVANCING INFERNO AND RELEASES THE COUNTERFORCE...


POTENT BEAMS SWEEP WIDE ACROSS THE BURNING LAND. WHERE THEY TOUCH THE BLAZING STAR-FIRE, IT FADES AND DIES...


THE PROCESS IS REPEATED UNTIL THE SCARRED AND MOLTEN LANDSCAPE LIES SILENT AND SAFE FROM THE THREAT OF TOTAL DESTRUCTION...


STRANGER AND STRANGER ARE THE VARIED WAYS OF FATE! THAT TERRIBLE FORCE HAS FALLEN PREY TO ITS INTENDED VICTIM!
THE GREAT CELESTIAL HAD THE ANSWER TO THE PROBLEM ALL THIS TIME!


DRUIG COULD NEVER HAVE SUCCEEDED WITH HIS PLAN! THE SPACE GODS REMAIN AN UNCONQUERABLE ENIGMA-- MYSTERIOUS AND MAJESTIC AMONG THE CREATURES OF THE COSMOS!


THUS, LIKE HIS FELLOWS, THE CELESTIAL MOVES ON--PERHAPS DWELLING ON A DISTANT TIME WHEN MEN HAVE GAINED THE STATURE TO FACE THEM EYE TO EYE--AND KNOW ALL!
THE END...?